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ABSTRACT

For students contemplating dropping out of school, the issue is dealt with strictly with facts, figures and real-life responses to questions posed to dropouts by dividing the issue into four brochures: (1) Dropout? Check It Out?; (2) Dropouts Who Return; (3) If I Leave School Where Can I Get Job Training; and (4) If I Leave School Will I Be Able to Find A Job. Reasons the potential dropout can identify with are followed by the positive reasons dropouts gave for their return to school. Charts and diagrams are used to show how the dropout's initial reason for dropping out differed from what actually happened. Even the dropouts who found jobs tended to come back to schools; reasons for return are cited in the third brochure where entrance requirements for career and vocational schools are given. Hiring policies in sample work areas wrap up the investigation of the dropout's life. (CJ)

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DROP OUT?

CHECK IT OUT!

DROPOUTS WHO RETURN

IF I LEAVE SCHOOL

WHERE CAN I GET JOB TRAINING

IF I LEAVE SCHOOL

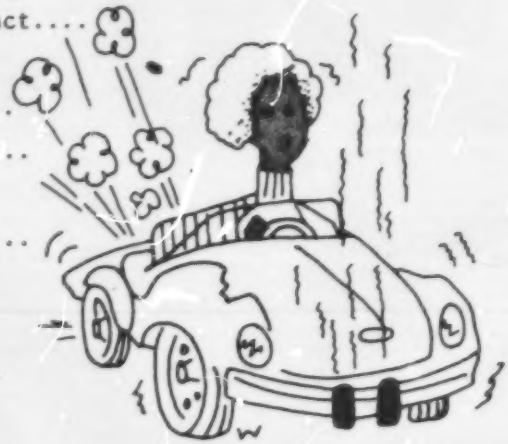
WILL I BE ABLE TO FIND A JOB

TM 810 846

THINKING ABOUT DROPPING OUT?

BEFORE YOU hang glide over the Grand Canyon....
sign a ten-year contract....
join the Army....
sell your tape deck....
move to North Dakota....
quit your job....
climb Mt. St. Helen.....
buy a used car....

AND....
BEFORE YOU drop out of school....



CHECK IT OUT!

The following pages contain comments from students who dropped out of school, then came back. You will be interested in what they have to say. Here are some of their ideas....

WHY DID YOU DROP OUT OF SCHOOL?

Had too many ABSENCES.

Wasn't worth my time.
Classes weren't fun to go to.

I had a lot of problems
with DITCHING.

Moved out of parent's home, couldn't support
myself and go to school also.

I didn't feel that it was
worth waking up for
anymore.

Went out during class and partied.

Teachers didn't help much.
I got DISCOURAGED.

Went to the HOSPITAL.

Didn't want to go to class.
It was BORING.

Mother got sick.

Just couldn't stay in classes,
work was hard,
goofed around a lot. Now
I REGRET IT!

WHAT HAPPENED WHILE YOU WERE OUT?

I went to a TRADE SCHOOL for a while and dropped out.

I did hardly NOTHING.

I was a runaway!

Had a GOOD TIME.

Took care of sister-in-law.

WORKED part-time.

I HUNG AROUND with friends.

I didn't like it.

Got pregnant.

Got BORED.

I LOOKED FOR A JOB.....BUT.....I DIDN'T find one!!

WHY ARE YOU BACK IN SCHOOL NOW?

I want it for MYSELF.

I thought about what I could do without an education. I was pregnant. When I went back I was thinking about my child's life as well as mine.

Navy will NOT take me without a GED.

Get a better chance of a GOOD CAREER someday.

To get my DIPLOMA.

I want it for MYSELF and to make my parents PROUD OF ME.

Studying to be someone so I could make my life HAPPIER.

I found it was IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT AN EDUCATION.

I GOT SMART!!

So stay in school, it's not worth it in the end.

Stick it out in school. It's a lot easier than trying to get the GED. It's hard!

ANY ADVICE ABOUT DROPPING OUT?

Try your best not to drop out because it's not easy in the future.

DON'T! Education is important if you want to make good money and not have to work your rear off. If you like working as a slave and barely making it then take your best shot.

You're doing the wrong thing when you drop out of school. You're a nothing.

STAY IN SCHOOL FOOL!

ON THE OTHER HAND....

If you're thinking of dropping out of school *FIRST TAKE A LOOK AT THE THREE OTHER BOOKLETS IN THIS SERIES* or read the full report titled: "THE DROPOUT PROBLEM".

Your counselor can give you the report and can also help you check out other information you'll need as a drop-out, such as job opportunities, training programs, or special schooling. Why not meet with your counselor soon?

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SPECIAL REPORT: THE DROPOUT PROBLEM
Report No. 22:11:79/81:013a

PHOENIX UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT, 210
2526 West Osborn Road
Phoenix, Arizona 85017

RESEARCH SERVICES

(602) 257 - 3082

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DROP OUT?

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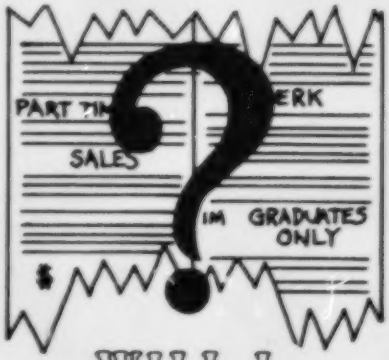


WILL I
BE ABLE
TO FIND A JOB

DROPOUTS WHO RETURN

A lot of students dropped out of school last year. Many of them did not like being "dropouts" and came back to school.

This booklet tells about some of the students who dropped out, what happened to them while they were out, why they came back to school, and why they like being there.

WHO CAME BACK TO SCHOOL?

Students who dropped out and then came back to school, answered a questionnaire about being a dropout.

They went to the Alternative Schools in our district

Alhambra	35
Bostrom	97
CEC	105
Cyesis	10
North	20
Total	267

There were about the same number of males and females.

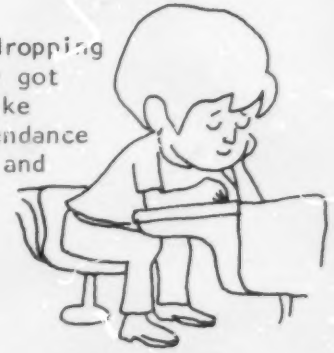
MALES	49.4%
FEMALES	48.7%

There were Anglos, Blacks, Hispanics, and Native Americans. No Orientals responded to the questionnaire.

Most students who dropped out and returned were 15, 16, and 17 years old.

WHY DID THEY DROP OUT OF SCHOOL IN THE FIRST PLACE?

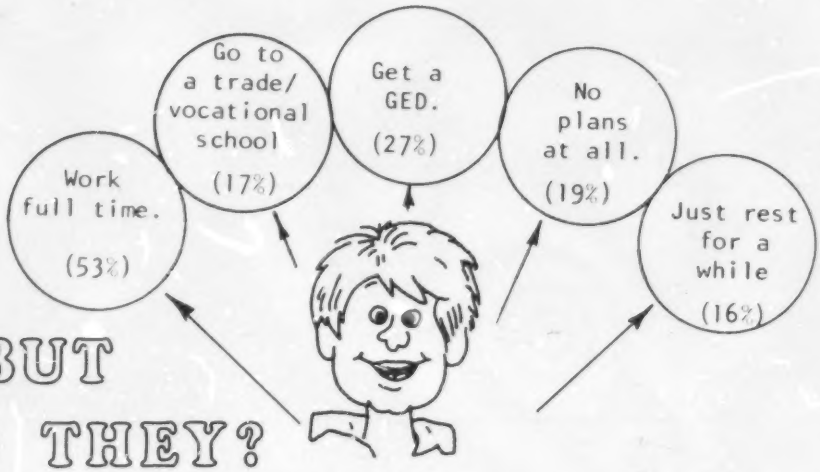
Each student gave about three reasons for dropping out of school, but the main reason was that they got kicked out for poor attendance. Many did not like their teachers, which is probably why their attendance was poor. A few had trouble getting to school, and some had personal problems.



REASONS FOR DROPPING OUT OF SCHOOL.....
"TOP TEN"

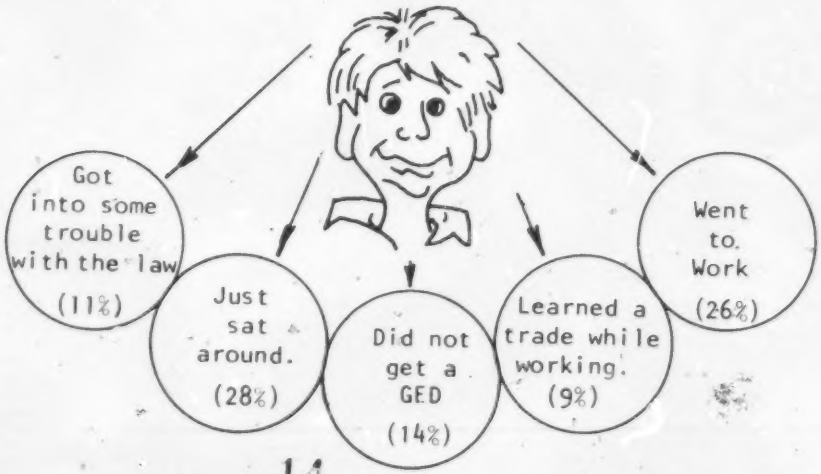
1. Kicked out for poor attendance
2. Did not like my classes
3. Did not like my teachers
4. School attendance policy
5. Got bad grades / felt discouraged
6. Don't like school
7. Got kicked out for poor grades
8. Family problems
9. Personal problems (illness, pregnancy, etc.)
10. Could not get courses I wanted

WHAT DID THEY WANT TO DO AFTER DROPPING OUT?



BUT DID THEY?

Not really. Here is what most of the students <u>really</u> did after they dropped out.

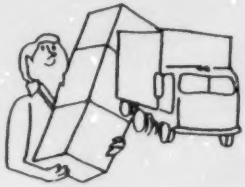


SOME OF THEM FOUND JOBS. WHAT KIND?

Some of the dropouts found jobs. The jobs often did not pay much, did not have much future, or did not have good work hours. Here are some of the jobs these droooouts found.

-Grocery store
-Bag boy

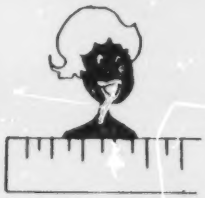
-Phone solicitor
-Clerical
-Cashier



-Truck loader
-Warehouse
-Factory

-Painter
-Plumber
-Laborer
-Carpenter

-Car Wash



-Print Shop
-Sign Lettering

-Janitor
-Orderly

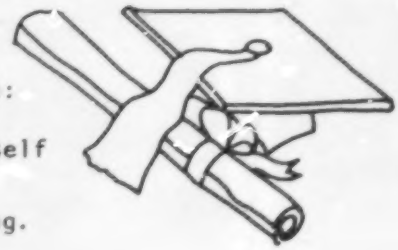
-Fast Food Restaurant
-Busboy
-Dishwasher

-Palm tree trimmer
-Gardener

BUT EVEN THE DROPOUTS WHO FOUND JOBS CAME BACK TO SCHOOL..... WHY?

The students gave a lot of reasons for coming back to school, but there was one big reason that most of them came back:

I wanted to graduate so I could have more opportunities (higher education, better job, etc.)



The other reasons for coming back to school were:

-I NEEDED MORE EDUCATION to support myself or my family.

-There was no future in what I was doing.

-I WAS BORED being out of school.

-My parents made me go back to school.

WILL THESE STUDENTS STAY IN SCHOOL NOW?

Most of the students say they like school now and they gave many reasons for staying in school. The Alternative Schools they attend are a little different than the regular high schools. Here are the five main reasons they are staying in school:

It's a good school

Shorter school day

More individual help

The teachers

It's stricter

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ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR CAREER AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

✡ ✡ ✡ ✡ ✡ ✡

note: students must pay tuition to attend the types of schools mentioned in this pamphlet.

INDUSTRIAL, TECHNICAL AND TRADE SCHOOLS

...OF 28 SCHOOLS CONTACTED:

- 1 technical institute enrolls dropouts
- 1 refrigeration school enrolls dropouts
- other schools require applicants to pass *TESTS* in:
  - -reading
  - -math
- -schools in the following fields *DO NOT ACCEPT* people under ages 18 to 21:
  - -bartending
  - -truck driving
  - -real estate
- -many schools *REQUIRE* a diploma or GED

BEAUTY AND BARBER SCHOOLS

...OF 12 SCHOOLS CONTACTED:

- -all report *MINIMUM AGES* for state licenses:
  - -16½ for barbers
  - -18 for cosmeticians

- -most schools want students *AGE 17 OR OLDER WHO HAVE A DIPLOMA OR A GED*
- -a few schools accept *OLDER OR MARRIED* dropouts
- -2 schools accept dropouts of any age who have *COMPLETED THE 10th GRADE*

BUSINESS OR SECRETARIAL SCHOOLS

...OF 7 SCHOOLS CONTACTED:

- 2 accept young dropouts
- 1 accepts a few dropouts, but usually only older people
- 4 *REQUIRE* a diploma or GED

MEDICAL OR DENTAL ASSISTANT SCHOOLS

...OF THE 6 SCHOOLS CONTACTED:

- 4 *REQUIRE* a diploma or GED
- 1 accepts dropouts *IF* they are working on their GED
- 1 accepts a few dropouts

GED PROGRAMS

(STUDY FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY TEST)

-These programs have AGE REQUIREMENTS of 18 years, except under special circumstances.

-NO ONE UNDER AGE 17 may take the GED test.

-Dropouts who are 17 years old and have been out of school for AT LEAST ONE YEAR may take the GED if they have a letter from someone who will hire them when they have passed the test.

-17 year old dropouts need such things as PARENT'S APPROVAL, A BIRTH CERTIFICATE, OR A LETTER from an employer, school, or armed services recruiter to get permission to take the test.

-GED study programs are given in the PHOENIX UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT and at several community colleges. If interested, see your Opportunity Hall proctor, your school counselor, or call 257-3182.

CALL 257-3182

OR 255-5802

to take the GED

(Requirements subject to change as of January 1st.)

THE ARMED SERVICES

-The Army will enlist 17 year old dropouts with their parent's consent but many of their technical schools admit only those recruits who PASS A SKILL OR APTITUDE TEST.

-The Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard accept 17-year-olds with parent's consent.

-The Air Force REQUIRES a diploma or GED.

LABOR UNION: MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS AND APPRENTICESHIPS

...OF THE 10 UNIONS CONTACTED:

- 4 *REQUIRE* a diploma or GED
- 2 *REQUIRE* a diploma or GED *AND* age of 18 years
- 2 *REQUIRE* that the person applying *ALREADY BE EMPLOYED IN THAT TRADE*
- 1 *REQUIRES* a *MINIMUM AGE* of 18, but no diploma or GED
- 1 accepts people under age 18 without a diploma or GED

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE AGENCIES: HELP FOR DROPOUTS

...OF 12 AGENCIES CONTACTED:

- 2 serve only county residents *OUTSIDE OF PHOENIX*
- 2 have an *AGE REQUIREMENT* of 17 years
- 3 provide on-the-job training for dropouts
- 3 provide job counseling and placement for dropouts
- 1 provides drug abuse counseling

-many agencies sometimes have *LONG WAITING LISTS.* They may not be able to help you right away, *BUT* the Phoenix Union High School District can!

FOR MORE INFORMATION TALK TO YOUR COUNSELOR.

FREE booklets on the youth unemployment problem and job qualifications are available. Call 255-4791 (Arizona Department of Economic Security).

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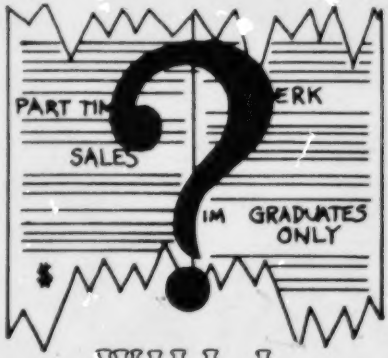


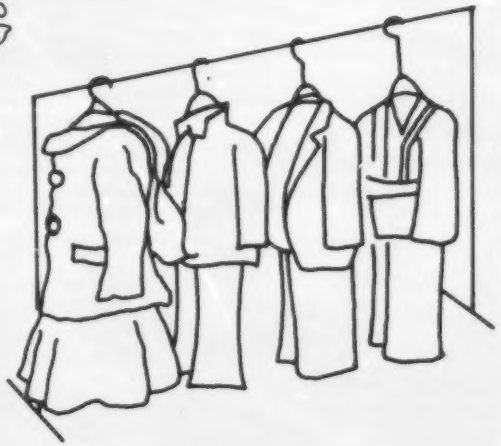
WILL I
BE ABLE
TO FIND A JOB

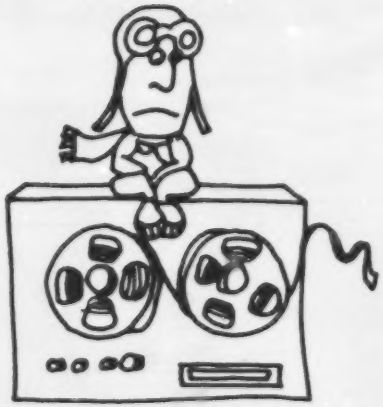
HIRING POLICIES PHOENIX AREA

MANUFACTURING

...OF 21 COMPANIES CONTACTED:

- 18 require employees to be *AGE 18* because of:
  - -health regulations
  - -safety regulations
  - -insurance regulations
- 1 requires all employees to have a *DIPLOMA OR GED*
- 1 hires only those over *AGE 17*
- 1 has some limited opportunities for dropouts

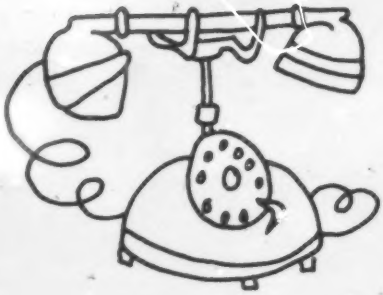




COMPUTERS, AEROSPACE

...OF 4 COMPANIES CONTACTED:

-*NONE* hire dropouts



PHONE SOLICITATION

...OF 2 CHAINS CONTACTED:

-Both *DON'T* hire dropouts because:
  -dropouts don't speak well on the phone
  -dropouts can't write down answers quickly and correctly

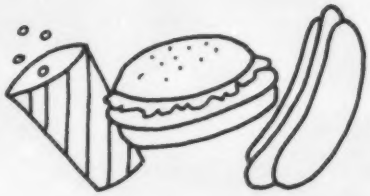
FAST FOOD CHAINS

...OF 2 COMPANIES CONTACTED:

-Both will hire anyone who is *AT LEAST 16 YEARS OLD*

-The jobs are *MINIMUM WAGE*, at the entry level

-*NO PROMOTION* is possible without a diploma or GED



EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES

...OF 4 AGENCIES CONTACTED:

-*NONE WILL ACCEPT* dropouts as clients, yet will try to place dropouts in jobs *IF* they have:
  -intelligence
  -aptitude for the job
  -a good appearance
  -dependability
  -a phone
  -a car

INSURANCE

...OF 5 COMPANIES CONTACTED:

- 3 companies will *NOT* hire dropouts
- 2 will hire dropouts as:
  - -mail clerks
  - -other low level clerical workers
- -*ADVANCEMENT* to higher positions require typing and math skills

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

...OF 5 LOCAL GOVERNMENTS CONTACTED:

- 3 require a *DIPLOMA, GED,* or passage of a *WRITTEN EXAM* before hiring
- 2 will hire dropouts in:
  - -food service
  - -custodial work
  - -recreational work
  - -clerk positions
- -Other jobs require *AGE 18,* plus experience

HOSPITALS, HEALTH SERVICES

...OF 6 INSTITUTIONS CONTACTED:

- 4 do *NOT* hire dropouts
- 2 hire dropouts as:
  - -waitresses
  - -food service workers
  - -pot washers
  - -file clerks

HOTELS, MOTELS

...OF 3 CHAINS CONTACTED:

-All have some low-paying, unskilled jobs for which they will hire dropouts

-Most people who are actually *HIRED* are over *AGE 18*

SUPERMARKETS, CONVENIENCE MARKETS

...OF 5 MARKETS CONTACTED:

-Many *CARRYOUT* positions are available, some dropouts are hired

-Promotion is not possible without skills in *ARITHMETIC*

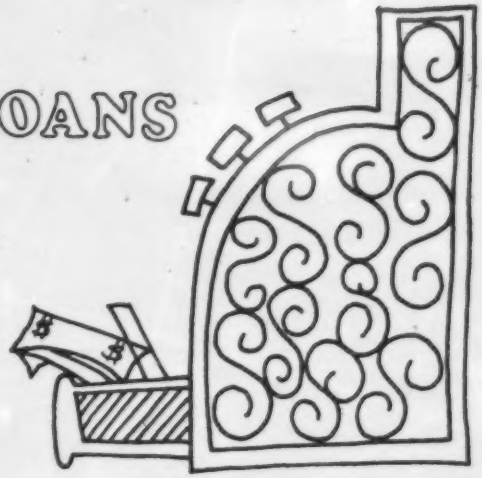
-There is an *AGE REQUIREMENT* of 19 years for:
- -stocker
- -warehouse worker
- -convenience market clerks (must handle liquor)

PRINTERS

...OF 2 COMPANIES CONTACTED:

-Both companies have *AGE REQUIREMENTS* of 18 years

BANKS, SAVINGS AND LOANS



...OF 8 BANKS CONTACTED:

- 3 require all employees to have a *DIPLOMA OR GED*
- 1 requires a *DIPLOMA OR GED*, or *EXPERIENCE AS AN ENCODER*
- 4 will hire dropouts in:
  - -entry level clerical jobs
  - -maintenance

-People actually *HIRED* at these banks usually have a *DIPLOMA* and even some *COLLEGE*

UTILITIES

...OF 3 UTILITIES CONTACTED:

- 2 require employees to be over *AGE 18*
- 1 will hire young dropouts as janitors, if they have *PARENT'S APPROVAL*

SCHOOLS, COLLEGES

...OF 4 SCHOOLS CONTACTED:

- 3 require a *DIPLOMA OR GED* for all staff
- 1 will hire people without degrees as custodians, but *USUALLY* gives jobs to students at the school

SUMMARY OF JOB REQUIREMENTS

FIELD	REQUIRE HIGH SCHOOL DEGREE	AGE REQUIREMENT OF 17, 18 OR 19 YEARS OLD	SPECIAL SKILLS
Manufacturing		X	
Hotel			
Supermarket		X (for many jobs)	Math
Convenience Market		X	
Aerospace, computers	X	X	
Printing		X	
Insurance			Typing, Math
Health Services		X (for many jobs)	
Banks, Savings	X (for many jobs)		Typing, Math
Education	X		
Utilities		X	
Employment Agencies Temporary Personnel		X (for many jobs)	Typing, good appearance, dependability
Local Government	X	X (for many jobs)	
Public Service Agencies			
Miscellaneous	X (for many jobs)	X (for many jobs)	

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